

FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP  
WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA  
ORDINANCE NO. 206

**AN ORDINANCE OF FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP, WASHINGTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, REGULATING THE DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS AND SHOTGUNS WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP; CONTAINING A DEFINITIONS SECTION; PROHIBITING THE DISCHARGE OF ANY FIREARM AND SHOTGUN WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS EXCEPT FOR THE PURPOSES OR ACTIVITIES ENUMERATED WITHIN; PROVIDING FOR PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION OF THE INSTANT ORDINANCE; INCLUDING A SAVINGS CLAUSE; REPEALING INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES AND/OR PORTIONS OF INCONSISTENT ORDINANCES, AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors may, under the general authority of the Second Class Township Code, as amended, (53 P.S. § 65101, *et seq.*), adopt Ordinances both to secure the safety of persons or property within the Township, and, also, to maintain peace and order within the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of Fallowfield Township has determined that in the interests of public safety and maintaining peace and order, regulations should be placed on the discharge of firearms and shotguns within the Township.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Board of Supervisors of Fallowfield Township, County of Washington, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and by this Ordinance it is hereby ordained and enacted as follows:

**SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.**

The following terms, as used in this Ordinance, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:

- (A) FIREARM: an instrument used in the propulsion of shot, shell, bullet and/or projectile by the action of gunpowder exploded within it.
- (B) SHOTGUN: a firearm that is generally a smooth bore firearm; designed to be fired from the shoulder, and which uses the energy of a fixed shell to fire a number of small spherical pellets called shot, or a solid projectile called a slug.

**SECTION 2. PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES.**

- (A) On any property within the Township, firearms and shotguns may be discharged, except as follows:
- (1) No discharge within one hundred-fifty (150) yards of any occupied dwelling house, residence, or other building or camp occupied by human beings, or any barn, stable, or other building used in connection therewith or any attached or detached playground of any school, nursery school or day-care center.
  - (2) No discharge within one hundred (100) yards of a property line.
  - (3) No shot, shell, bullet and/or projectile may cross any property line.
  - (4) No discharge of firearms or shotguns, except with an adequate backstop.
  - (5) No discharge between the hours of 7:30 p.m. and 6:30 a.m.

**SECTION 3. EXEMPTIONS.**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall not apply to the following uses or activities involving firearms or shotguns where otherwise legal:

- (A) Authorized law enforcement officers acting in the line of duty.
- (B) Hunting or other activities regulated by and conducted in accordance with the Pennsylvania Game and Wildlife Code, 34 Pa.C.S.A. § 101, *et seq.*
- (C) Indoor commercial shooting ranges.
- (D) Outdoor commercial shooting ranges that were in operation prior to the passage of this instant Ordinance.
- (E) Use of firearms or shotguns in defense of human life.
- (F) Any person over the age of eighteen (18) years using a firearm or shotgun to control wildlife in the protection of cultivated crops, fruit trees, vegetables, livestock, poultry or other property; provided, however, that such use of the firearm or shotgun shall comply with the requirements of the Pennsylvania Game and Wild Life Code.

**SECTION 4. PENALTIES.**

Any person, firm, partnership, corporation or other entity violating any provision of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, be subject to pay a fine not to exceed Three Hundred Dollars (\$300.00), plus costs of prosecution, and in default of payment of such fine and costs, be subject to imprisonment for not more than thirty (30) days.

**SECTION 5. SAVINGS CLAUSE.**

Should any provision or other part of this Ordinance be finally declared to be illegal, unenforceable, void and/or unconstitutional, such shall not affect the remainder of this Ordinance which shall nonetheless be fully valid, binding and enforceable.

It is declared to be the intention of the Board of Supervisors of Fallowfield Township that this Ordinance would have been adopted if such invalid or unconstitutional provision had not been included.

**SECTION 6. REPEALER.**

Any and all prior Ordinances and/or any and all portions of prior Ordinances that are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict. The remaining prior Ordinances and/or portions of prior Ordinances, not modified herein, shall remain the same.

**SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

This Ordinance shall take effect immediately.

**ORDAINED AND ENACTED** as an Ordinance of Fallowfield Township by the Board of Supervisors of Fallowfield Township this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2012.

ATTEST:

FALLOWFIELD TOWNSHIP

Karen Salbut  
Secretary

By: [Signature]  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

